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J. H. BROWN, Man. Ed.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1st, 1916
AROUND VERDUN

The struggle which is being waged with such fierce intensity around Verdun is being watched with bated breath by the whole civilized world, which realizes all that the outcome of it carries in its wake. Should the enemy succeed in battering down the French defences, the road to Paris would be open, and the victorious enemy would "take some stopping" once they got well started on the road thither. The Kaiser appears to be staking his all to make his present offensive a success, and already the sacrifice of his men is appalling.

The France that he is fighting today however, is not the France of 1870. Today the French soldier is the equal of the German at his best; and the attack now being made has been anticipated and prepared for by the French commander. The Kaiser recently announced that the war would be over by the middle of April. Should he fail at Verdun, as the French War Office feels sure he must, it may perhaps turn out that he was a true prophet, even though the result be not quite what he intended.

FREE WHEAT

The object of the free wheat agitation which Parliament by a decisive vote has just refused to recognize, is to afford the western farmers free access for their wheat to the United States. On the principle of legislation tending to such intimate economic union with a friendly but yet a foreign country, the Canadian people pronounced decisively when they defeated the Reciprocity proposals in 1911, and there can be little doubt that the conditions created by the present war have strengthened the people of this country in their determination to maintain that economic independence. This Parliament reflects the dominant sentiment of Canada when it refuses to be moved by the free wheat agitation, which is undoubtedly a Western echo of the Reciprocity campaign into the adoption of what is frankly radical legislation.

The merits of free wheat as a practical business issue are a matter of controversy, and it is also true, as the Hon. Arthur Meighen says, that politics have played a large part in the agitation. In the West the Liberal press has fanned the prejudices of the farmers, and it was a familiar charge Mr. Tariff made when he declared that the big interests of the East were running the country. The farmers of the West are but poorly served by some of their representatives, who exploit their grievances while making light of the extraordinary privileges and immunities they have received and are receiving at the expense of the whole country.

The Canadian West is cursed with a few agitators who seem to think of nothing but questions calculated to stir up political mischief. It is the work of these disturbers to dangle before the eyes of the Western farmers elaborate short cuts to unbounded wealth along the political route. It would be a matter for general congratulation if these men could be replaced in public life by able representatives who would further questions of real and lasting benefit to the West and the nation as a whole.

WHAT WILL AMERICA DO?

President Wilson seems inclined to stick tenaciously to the principle for which he has always contended that citizens of neutral nations have every right to travel on merchant ships of belligerent nations in peace and safety. This is what he has been contending for in his various notes to Germany in connection with the Lusitania incident, and concerning which he has drawn upon himself a certain degree of contempt on the part of a section of his own countrymen as well as that of outsiders because he preferred to use diplomacy rather than force to get his contentions admitted. Now, however, the scene has changed, and the President is being

asked by an influential section of the American people to back down and admit that Americans who travel on belligerent merchant ships, do so at their own risk. Unless Mr. Wilson wishes to bring upon himself further ridicule, it is difficult to see how he can do as he is asked.

Germany's announced intention to resume her submarine warfare upon the merchant ships of belligerent nations will, if carried out, call for something more than diplomatic representations on the part of President Wilson, and the regrettable feature of the case is that the American Congress seems inclined to submit to German dictation rather than back up the President in his stand for the rights of neutral citizens. There is, of course, something to be said for the fact that the American government is conscious of its impotence if it came to a question of force; at the same time the course Congress would like the President to pursue would, if adopted, bring America into unmitigated contempt among the nations of the world.

Bloody Battle Raging Around Verdun

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is not occupied by any of the adversary forces.

Paris, Feb. 28.—"A frightful massacre" is how German soldiers taken prisoner in the battle of Verdun describe the effect of the French artillery, machine gun and rifle fire. But the impact of the assaulting forces was not diminished thereby during the first four days, because fresh troops were thrown into the battle unceasingly.

"Advance, no matter what the losses may be," was the order given to the German troops before the attack. This is verified by documents found on one of the captured officers.

The most critical moment in the six days' action was when the Germans gained a footing in the entrenched camp by the capture of Fort Douaumont. The last hesitation on the part of the defenders would have been disastrous. The Germans redoubled their efforts to take advantage of any confusion, but the French immediately began a counter offensive.

French infantry advanced at double-quick pace to the trumpet charge, and leaped at the first ranks of the Germans with irresistible fury. The clash was murderous to both sides. The thinned French ranks were not to be denied, but went to the second German wing, while reinforcements were hurried to their support. The German lines wavered first west of Douaumont, then were driven out of the ruins of the fort.

A cry of triumph went up all along the French line, and the ardor of the counter attack was redoubled. In the meantime an artillery duel, surpassing in intensity any previous action of the war, added to the carnage.

The battle seems now to have reached a critical point. The assaulting forces have recoiled slightly in the region of Douaumont; leaving the remnants which occupied the fort cut off and surrounded by French troops. The attacks upon the French left, at Cote Du Poivre, seemed to have completely failed. However, attacks made repeatedly with such heavy masses as the Germans are constantly bringing up, it is admitted by military authorities, are always likely to make further gains, provided the officers are willing to pay the price in human life.

There is no exaggerated optimism to be found in military circles here, but the check of the Germans attacking in such formidable numbers is regarded by them as one of the great achievements of the war, and it is generally held that events have taken a turn quite favorable to the French arms in the last twenty-four hours.

In Belgium, our batteries have bombarded German organizations located opposite Steenstraet, Pheno, in Chimpagne, in the region of the Navarin farm, to the north of Soule, the enemy was successful by a surprise attack, in occupying certain trenches of our advanced line, they also took a supporting trench.

CHARGES AGAINST H. M. BLAIR

(Continued from page 1)
managing director of the Concrete Construction, Ltd., closed the contract for painting steel bridges for the Provincial Public Works Department, was on the witness stand. In his direct examination he confirmed parts of the contents of the affidavit he had made, and upon which the charges were founded, and his cross-examination by Mr. Gregory was in progress when court adjourned until tomorrow.

Commissioner Teed said that he expected to conclude the enquiry tomorrow, and his report will then probably soon be filed with the government.

J. K. Pinder, M. L. A., will be called as a witness.

The casualties from the beginning of the war to Jan. 31st, aggregate 23,087 officers, of whom 7,457 have been killed or died, 14,158 wounded, and 1,172 missing.

Portuguese Seize Teutonic Vessels

All German and Austrian Ships in Portuguese Harbors Seized by the Government.

Lisbon, Feb. 23.—A naval command today took forcible possession of thirty six German and Austrian vessels, interned in the river, hoisted the Portuguese colors on them and saluted them with a 21 gun salute from the Portuguese fleet. Just exactly what this action means is not clear, as no explanations come from either the authorities there or elsewhere. It is merely to provide additional vessels for transportation service by Great Britain?

London, Feb. 25.—The Portuguese Premier stated in the Chamber of Deputies today that attempts had been made to force seven of the Teutonic ships requisitioned by the government, and that an explosive had been found on the steamship Buelow of the North German Lloyd Company. The Premier added that he considered it in the best interests of Portugal that the existing treaty with Germany be allowed to lapse, and said that the Portuguese Government was prepared for all eventualities that might arise from the exercise by Portugal of her rights.

Paris, Feb. 26.—A Lisbon despatch to the Paris Temps says that the requisitioning of German and Austrian ships has been extended to all these lying in the Ports of Portugal and her colonies. There are 37 at Lisbon and 33 in the other harbors. The Temps of Lisbon says that if the German government wishes to see in Portugal's action a tacit denunciation of the treaties existing between Germany and Portugal no one in Portugal will object, as the maintenance of those treaties is no longer possible. The Portuguese government has not received reply to its notification made to Germany regarding the requisitioning of the ships. Several of the latter the Temps correspondent adds, seem to have been wilfully damaged. On being repaired, they will be sent with cargoes of mine pots to England, and will return to Portugal with coal.

House Debates Woman Question

Towards the close of a debate on the question of women's rights, Sir Robert Borden delivered a short speech in which he said that the whole question of the franchise would be taken into consideration by the government and with it the question of granting the franchise to women.

The House had been discussing a resolution moved by Hon. Wm. Pugsley to the effect that women entitled to vote in any province should also have the right to vote in federal elections. Sir Robert Borden opposed the resolution as tending to create different conditions in different provinces. He stated that Mr. Pugsley had raised questions in view of which the whole matter of the federal franchise would be taken into consideration by the government.

Any proposal as to women suffrage would be upon a broader basis than had been proposed by the St. John member.

REV. DR. CUTTON TO PAISE 219th

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produced, a fact which the students attending Acadia are very proud of. He was married to Miss Minnie Warren Brown, of Westfield, Mass., in 1898. He was pastor of the Union Baptist Church, Montrose, Mass., in 1898, and the Howard Avenue Baptist Church, New Haven, Conn., from 1898 to 1904; First Baptist Church, Corning, N. Y., 1904-7; First Baptist Church, Columbus, O., 1907-10. Since 1910 he has been president and professor of psychology of religion and pedagogy at Acadia University.

Dr. Cutton is an author of considerable note, his best known writings being "The Case of John Kinsell," published in 1903, "The Christian Life," "The Psychology of Alcoholism," in 1907, and "The Psychological Phenomena of Christianity" in 1908. He has also contributed considerably to magazines and written many masterly review articles. Such an eminent authority as Dr. John Reade in one of his volumes refers to Dr. Cutton as "An author and lecturer of renown."

Dr. Cutton is an ardent disciple of physical culture and is a splendid specimen of Nova Scotian, wonderfully equipped both physically and mentally. He has always been a keen supporter of collegiate athletics and could show the boys of his college team how to do a "drop kick," "punt," "tackle" or "rush" with the best coach in the business.

Many of the students of Acadia University have already enlisted, and with this announcement that the president will recruit an overseas battalion no doubt many more will do the khaki. The governors at the meeting on Thursday night decided that the college would be kept going as usual next year. Reports have been in circulation that Acadia would close her doors during the next term, but the decision was "business as usual" and although the attendance may be in a large measure depleted on account of the war, it was decided to be most expedient that Acadia continue her course untroubled by the great conflict now raging in Europe.

French Public Men Represent Ontario's Action

Ask Canadian Government to Protect the French Language in Ontario Schools.

Ottawa, Feb. 23.—Liberal members of Parliament joined forces with the French-Canadian patriots at a series of meetings here last night in protest against the bilingual schools restrictions in Ontario. Ex-Speaker Marcell, Senator Landry, O. E. Turgeon, M. P. for Gloucester, N. B., and Joseph Demers, M. P. for St. Jean Ibberville, were the principal speakers. The need of union in resisting the regulation was the keynote of the addresses. Hundreds of signatures were placed on a petition asking the Federal Government to disallow the Ontario Act violating regulation 17. The Hon. Charles Marcell, ex-Speaker of the House, strongly suggested a compromise in the struggle through the medium of a conference. Such a conference, he said, could be composed of the principals from each faction, who would have the sanction of their supporters to represent them. He thought such a conference would have less trouble in finding a solution to the existing difficulties than the Allies would at the end of the war.

School Standings

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY
Results of Weekly examinations:
Grade XI—Subject, Algebra—Margaret Callahan, 100; Alice Campbell, 98; Cecilia McLaughlin, 66.
Grade X—Subject, Arithmetic—May Dolan, 97; Florence Gallagher, 72; Margaret Clarke, 72; Doris Buckley, 71; Bernadette Keating, 70.
Grade IX—Subject, Christian Doctrine—Cecilia Murphy, 95; Nellie Creamer, 88.7; Estelle Theriault, 70; Emma Stewart, 65.

Results of weekly examinations in High School Department:
Pupils who made 60 per cent.
Grade XI—Subject—History—Margaret Callahan 92.5, Alice Campbell 91.7, Cecilia McLaughlin 91, Gertrude Ryan 88, Lottie McWilliam 87.
Grade X—Subject—English—May Dolan 96.4, Doris Buckley 93.4, Bernadette Keating 87.7, Florence Gallagher 86.7, Helen Neff 84.5, Margaret Clarke 75.3.

Grade IX—Subject, English—May Dolan 90.5, Nellie Creamer 85, Cecilia Murphy 80.5, Agnes Lawlor 75.5, Isabelle Long 70.3, Marion McChesney 70, Sadie Arsenau 69.2, Estelle Theriault 65.7.

ROSEBANK SCHOOL REPORT

January and February
Pupils enrolled—40.
Pupils absent no days—Willie Howe, Burton Howe, Sam Howe.
Pupils absent one half day—Muriel Russell, Sigrid Jansson.
Pupils absent one day—Leonard Malley.
Perfect conduct—Willie Howe, Burton Howe.

Averages on examination:
Grade V (a)—Leonard Malley 67.
Grade V (b)—Linnea Hedman 78.
Grade III (Second Reader)—Muriel Russell 89; Elsa Hedman 60; Raymond Roy 56; Lizzie Taylor 55.
Grade III (First Reader)—Alexis Taylor 95; Burton Howe 79; Vincent DeWolfe 72; Willie Howe 70; Henry Malley 56.

Grade II—Joseph Robichaud, Sigrid Jansson 91; Gertrude Sullivan 85; Sam Howe 68; Florence Ryan 60.
Grade I (a)—Lizzie Hedman; 2nd Joseph Taylor, Hazel Taylor; 2nd Jane Howe, Harry Ryan.
Grade I (b)—Francis Tobin, Harry Taylor, Karin Hedman, Norman Russell, Norman Taylor, Stuart Butler, Freddie Taylor.

Can be Rebuilt for \$1,500,000

Messrs. Pearson and Marchand, of Toronto and Montreal architects, report that with the exception of the central interior and the rear wall, the building itself can be repaired without entirely rebuilding. Most of the walls are still intact, and what is left of the building represents a value in labor and material of approximately two million dollars, or considerably over half of the original cost.

The architects find that the new northwest wing built six years ago, at a cost of half a million dollars, and made fireproof at the time, is practically intact, the only damage being from smoke and water. The walls and masonry of the east, south and west sides are standing practically in their original condition and have not been damaged by fire. The Commons and Senate chambers and the central interior of the building are practically all destroyed together with a part of the north wall. The roof is also gone over most of the building and will practically have to be replaced in its entirety. The main tower is undamaged for the most part up to the large windows and will have to be rebuilt only in part from there up. The floors throughout most of the building will have to be replaced and new steel supports. It will take perhaps two years to fully complete the repairs and the cost will probably be about one million, five hundred thousand dollars.

New Spring Goods Have Arrived at Creaghans'

This week we feature our New Hats and Caps for Men
NOTWITHSTANDING the scarcity of dyes we have never had such a fine showing of beautiful shades in Men's Hats. Every color is absolutely fast as is guaranteed not to fade.
The principal makes include "Stetson", "Bosolino", "Wolthausen", "Boston", and other leading brands—Green and Grey are the leading colors while the flat turned or rolled brim is the most popular shape. We have never had such a fine display.
Prices Range at \$1.50, 2.00, 2.50, 3.00, 4.00, 4.50
See Our New Eastern—Maritime—Boston CAPS



Enemy Defeated in Egypt

London, Feb. 28.—Additional advice regarding the fighting in Western Egypt, in which South African troops defeated Senussi tribesmen commanded by Turkish officers were received by the war office today from Major General Sir John Maxwell, commander of the British forces. The report says:
"The fight on Saturday last ended in a decisive success for us. The enemy were under the personal command of Nuri Bey, brother of Enver Pasha, the Turkish war minister, with Gasfar as his principal subordinate. They were holding a strong position some fifteen miles southeast of Barami.
"General Peyton reports that the attack by South African infantry under General Lukin was completely successful, and that the charge of the Dorsetshire Yeomanry was brilliant, and most effective. In this charge Gasfar was wounded and made prisoner, and Nuri Bey was killed. The enemy left more than 200 killed or wounded on the ground. In addition to Gasfar, two other Turkish officers were made prisoners. One machine gun was captured.
"The telegraph line between Tahruf and Barami has not been completely restored, so that full details of the affair are not yet at hand."

Free Wheat De-feated 77 to 44.

Ottawa, Feb. 23.—The Commons spent the greater part of today's session in winding up the debate on Mr. Turill's resolution for free wheat.
Hon. Robert Rogers in continuing the debate today opposed free wheat on the ground that the administration should stick to the policy of "Canada for the Canadians." Owing to the differences in the grain markets of Canada and the United States it was impossible to make a comparison of wheat prices in the two countries; Parliament should take no action that would deprive Canada's railways of traffic; the railroads would lose business if wheat were diverted to America channels.
The resolution was defeated by a vote of 77 to 44.

Heavy Snowfall Through France

Paris, Feb. 26.—Heavy snow storms have occurred throughout France, with the exception of the far southern districts. Railroad traffic and telegraphic communication have been interrupted.
Lisence and other cities which have been noted for mild climate are covered with snow several inches deep for the first time in many years. In the departments of Deuene, Ardèche, Savoy and Isere the snow in many places is three feet deep. Communication with Italy is retarded on account of heavy snowfalls in districts leading to the tunnels, and reports from Switzerland state that similar conditions prevail on the Mount Gotthard line.

Women to Vote on Prohibition in Saskatchewan

Regina, Sask., Feb. 26.—The women of Saskatchewan will have an opportunity to exercise their franchise before their Manitoba sisters. By an Act, which was given second reading today, the referendum as to whether

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the dispensary system shall continue or whether there shall be total prohibition will be voted on in December of this year and the women will be allowed to vote on it. Originally the date of the referendum was fixed for December, 1919, but it is in recognition of the sleeping temperance sentiment that the date has been fixed for three years earlier.

ONE MONTH'S Bargains

FROM DECEMBER 6TH.
Two Thousand Dollars worth of goods to be sold below cost at

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NEW STORE CASTLE ST.
Bring your Furs and Hides big prices paid. 50-3mos.

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FOLLANSBEE & CO.

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E. J. MORRIS, CHEMIST & DRUGGIST.

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WE CARRY A FULL STOCK OF
Ladies' Fur Coats
Men's Coon Coats
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" Clipped Goat Coats
" Fur Lined Coats
" Dog Skin Coats
" Fur Collar Coats

A good assortment of Fur Robes at Reasonable Prices

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